Region: Northeast

Site Information: Task Force on Family Violence - Main Office

1400 N 6<sup>th</sup> Street Milwaukee, WI 53212

**Site Contact Person/Title:** Carmen Pitre, Executive Director

**Billing Contact Name:** Tim Nicholas **Phone:** (414) 276-1911

Is agency Medicaid certified? no Faith-based Organization:

**Minority or Disadvantaged Vendor:** yes (Disadvantaged Vendor)

## **Facility Accessibility:**

Offers American Sign Language interpretation	• DD/TTY number:
Offers handicapped parking	Is wheelchair accessible
Has a location near public transportation	

## **Specializations:**

- Programs for Women
- Services for Pregnant Women
- Services for Families with Children (Childcare Provided)
- Services for Persons Involved in the Criminal Justice System
- Offers Spanish and Hmong language

# **Hours of Operations:**

Monday:	8am-5pm	Tuesday:	8am-5pm	
Wednesday:	8am-5pm	Thursday:	8am-5pm	
Friday:	8am-5pm	Saturday:		
Sunday:		Emergency Con	Emergency Contact 24 Hour Phone	
-		Number:	Number:	

### **Program Description**

# **Legal Emergency Assistance Program**

Our LEAP advocates specialize in helping clients create comprehensive safety plans as well as access community resources. Advocates assist victims with problems related to shelter, custody, visitation, child support, food shortages, transportation, clothing, housing, employment, health care, and public benefits. Legal emergencies are addressed in collaboration with our partners at Legal Action of Wisconsin. Annually, LEAP provides between 1000 and 1500 victims with advocacy services.

#### **Children's Advocacy Program**

Our children's advocates provide assistance to protective parents when their children are direct victims of abuse or have witnessed domestic violence. They provide safety planning, advocacy within the child welfare and legal systems, as well as case management services. Advocates help clients gain access to needed community resources, including legal representation through our partnership with Legal Action of Wisconsin. The Children's

Advocacy Program began serving families in 2000, and has rapidly grown to serve roughly 1500 clients annually. In 2004, the Children's Advocacy Program served over 1,200 protective parents and their children.

# Ending Violence through Education (EVE): Groups for Women and LGBT Abusers

Our 18-week intervention and education program for women offenders and abusers who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) challenges participants to take responsibility for their abusive behavior. Through interactive discussion, media, and role-playing, we teach participants to recognize the tactics of power and control that they have used on their partners and family members. In addition, we provide practical tools to change abusive behavior and instead practice healthy decision-making and emotional management.

### **Ending Violence through Education (EVE): Groups for Survivors**

We offer ongoing support and education groups for victims of domestic violence. The groups cover: typical signs of the effects of domestic violence on children; services available for children who have been exposed to domestic violence; introduction to other advocacy services and community resources; explanation of criminal and civil systems; overview of batterers' group content; safety planning and practical tools to assess a batterer's change; and logistical support, such as providing for transportation needs, necessary for accessing services.

# **Child Witness to Domestic Violence Project (CWDVP)**

The CWDVP offers 12-week, developmentally-appropriate classes targeted to children who have witnessed domestic violence in three age groups: three to six, seven to twelve, and thirteen and older. Major goals and objectives of the support group and educational programming include: 1) breaking the family secrets about violence by defining violence; 2) sharing personal experiences and learning about a range of feelings; 3) learning to protect oneself through protection planning; 4) learning assertive conflict resolution and learning about safe/unsafe touching; 5) having a positive experience in a safe and structured environment; and 6) strengthening self-esteem through positive reinforcement and validation of feelings. All three group support and education programs are run concurrently with the parenting group for victims/mothers.

### **Parenting Classes**

We offer 12-week classes for victims/mothers that are taught concurrently with our groups for children. The parenting curriculum includes education on: 1) the effects of domestic violence on children; 2) parent-child communication/talking with the child about the violence; 3) establishing order and routine in the home; 4) childhood development and behavioral expectations; 5) positive, non-abusive discipline; 6) enhancing children's self-esteem; and 6) general skills of healthy, nurturing parenting.

For more information on these programs, please visit our website: www.tffv.org